

Friday 30th November 2018

Dear Families

There has been great excitement with enrichment activities and Christmas rehearsals. Year Four have been busy rehearsing their Christmas play. It sounds fantastic. I cannot wait to watch! I have heard beautiful carol singing from around the school. Do be sure to attend one of our Christmas carol performances. We will also be performing in the community! Year Five were all engaged in a really exciting project, building war ships connected to their WW2 topic, and testing them out in water. Today, Year Three had their Egyptian Craft Market morning. It was fantastic to see so many parents and other family members in to help the children create their crafts. It was actually difficult to work out who was having the most fun! Of course, there is lots more fun to come. Some of our year groups will be watching the Nativity performances at the infant school; Year Four will put on their performance; and the Christmas tree will be going up in the hall too!

Events next week:

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| DEC 2018 | | |
| S 1 | 14.00-16.00 | INFANT FAYRE |
| M 3 | 09.45 14.00 | Year 3 to watch Infant nativity Year 6 to watch Foundation Stage nativity |
| T 4 | 08.00 13.45 | Last Judo Club Year 2 to Juniors to watch Year 4 show |
| W 5 | 15.30 19.00 | Last Sewing Club Year 4 show |
| | pm | Year 6 Cybercrime Workshop |
| Th 6 - 9 | | Christmas tree festival in Twyford |
| F 7 | 18.00-21.00 18.40 | Twyford Village Fayre PJS children singing |
| Sat 8 | 14.00 -16.00 | JUNIOR Christmas fayre |
| Sun 9 th | eve | Wokingham Carol concert – NEW VENUE – Aborfield Leisure Centre |

Free School Meals

If you are on benefits, and want to find out if your child is entitled to free school meals, please contact the school office. Our office staff will be happy to help you find out. The government give additional money to school for each child entitled to free school meals, which we can use to support your child's learning, and help to fund the school trips your child attends – further helping you financially.

Supervising Children and Children Walking Home Alone

Before and after school, please do ensure you carefully supervise your children, especially younger children who are not yet old enough to attend the junior school. Please also accept this gentle reminder that children should not be using the play equipment before and after school.

Some of our older children walk to and from school by themselves. Do take a look at the NSPCC's information, particularly this article about "Staying Safe Away from Home". It gives some useful points that you might want to talk to them about. <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/staying-safe-away-from-home/>

Year Five Dunkirk Project

Breaking news! Wonderful Year Five succeed in making brilliant boats to remember the Dunkirk teamwork and spirit.

A few days ago, Year Five were set the target to build some boats that were strong enough to carry as much as 3kg worth of weight. They had some masking tape, plastic bottles, cardboard and some plasticine. In the early morning, Year Five had to plan their teams and their boats. Unsure of what teams to put themselves in, some people needed help! After break, everyone was beginning to choose materials. You could hear the crunch of bubble wrap and the scream of rolls of cellotape. Finally, we all stood outside in the rain and watched every boat sink. Some carried many heavy weights; whilst others only carried one. In conclusion, everyone had extreme amounts of fun. We used building skills we would not usually use; and we learnt about the evacuation of Dunkirk; materials; buoyancy; and working together as teams.

Imogen Buchanan.

Egyptian Craft Morning

This morning we had great fun. We made cat canopic jars. We also made colourful Egyptian necklaces made from pasta. Using clay, we also made a sarcophagus. It was a messy, but fun morning. Reported by a Year 3 child.

The Year 3 team would like to say a huge thank you to all of the grown-ups that came. We had a great morning and hope you did too. Have a lovely restful weekend. Thank you ☺

Upper School House Football - Boys

The final games were played on Monday lunchtime and the results were as follows:

Penn 1 - 0 Stanlake

Loddon 0 - 1 Chiswick

Overall Penn finished first, joint second were Chiswick and Stanlake, and in third place were Loddon. Well done to all the boys who took part, and thank you to the House and Vice Captains

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for organising the teams. Also a big thank you to Mr McGlone for refereeing. The lower school boys will play their tournament in the summer term.

Year Four Play

Parents and carers of year four are invited to the evening performance of the year four Christmas play starting at 7.00pm on Wednesday 5th December. Please could children arrive at 6.40pm. Doors will open for the audience at 6.45pm.

Twyford Village Fayre

All Polehampton children are invited to come and sing some Christmas carols/songs behind Waitrose at 6.40-7.00pm on Friday 7th December. Its good fun! We will have a little practise of the songs in school beforehand. Details of the Christmas events in and around Twyford are enclosed in the attached leaflet – ‘Christmas Together’.

Advent booklets

Today we are sending out Advent booklets for the children to read during December.

Children’s Christmas Quiz

The children’s Christmas quiz will be held at St Thomas More church on Monday 3rd December at 5.30-7pm. Infants and juniors are welcome, and there will be a colouring table for the young ones.

Christmas Post Box

Our Christmas post box will be open for posting and deliveries on Monday 10th December. Please ensure that the envelope is addressed very clearly to BOTH names of the recipient, along with the name of the class that the recipient is in. We have provided this information to help -

Just a reminder and to help with spelling:

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| <p>Year 3: Miss Kimber – Amethyst Class Miss Dunne – Sapphire Class Mrs Robinson, Miss Hernandez, Mrs Jansen-Hull and Mrs Arkell</p> | <p>Year 4: Miss Davis - Emerald Class Miss Clarke – Opal Class Mrs McGregor and Mrs Dolinski</p> |
| <p>Year 5: Mrs Newman and Mrs Selvester, Diamond Class Miss Ackerman – Topaz Class Mrs Burge, Mrs Long and Miss Woods</p> | <p>Year 6: Miss Cacutt - Olympus Class Mrs Stockdale - Fuji Class Mrs Apps, Mrs Porter</p> |
| <p>Additional teachers Mr Thompson – Year 5 and 6 Mrs Rawlings, Lunchtime staff: Mrs Andrews, Miss Denton and Mr Cooper</p> | |
| <p>Headteacher: Ms F Alder SENCO: Mrs H Medcalf Admin staff: Mrs Bowen, Mrs Moat and Mrs Poole Site controller: Mr McGregor</p> | |



Christmas Panto – 18th December

Please remember to return your slips and make payment for the Panto visit, if not already done so. We will also need an EV2 form completed. Copies can be found with our newsletters on our website. Thank you!

Christmas Raffle Tickets

Thank you to everyone who has returned their raffle tickets this week, and a special thumbs up to all of those that folded their stubs. The Infant School have organised the raffle this year and have some amazing prizes. We will draw the raffle – including tickets sold by both schools - at the Junior School Christmas Fayres on 8th December. If you're still busy selling yours, we will need the counter-foils (please include a phone number so we can contact the winners), and money (please make cheques payable to Polehampton C of E Infant School PTA) by 7th December at the very latest so our elves have time to fold the stubs ready for the grand draw. **Please return any unsold tickets to either the Infant or Junior schools as we can sell these at both school fayres.**

Thank you very much for your support to both schools.

The PTA Team

Request for Books!

Do you have any good quality, good condition children's books (fiction and non-fiction) suitable for 7 to 11 year olds that you are no longer using? If so, please do donate them to the school, so we can replenish our book corners.

Wokingham Libraries

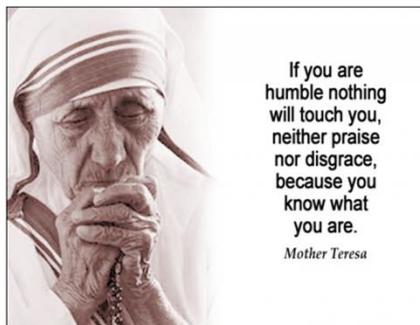
Christmas Closures

All our Libraries will be closed on Tuesday 25th December, Wednesday 26th December 2018 and Tuesday 1st January 2019. **All libraries will be closing at 1pm on Monday 24th December and from 4pm on Monday 31st December 2018.**

Finchampstead Library will be closed from 12.30pm on Saturday 22nd December to Tuesday 1st January inclusive, and re-open on Wednesday 2nd January. Arborfield Library will be closed on Monday 31st December 2018. Spencers Wood Library will be closed on Monday 31st December 2018.

For all events visit: <http://www.wokingham.gov.uk/libraries/whats-on-in-our-libraries/>

Value for the Term – Humility



With best wishes

F.Alder
Interim Headteacher

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